

ABSTRACT

The performance of distributed systems can be improved by adapting a server's processing activity in response to changing network conditions or performance mismatches. In one embodiment, the server's processing rate is modified when a change in the network conditions is detected. In another embodiment, the encoding technique used to process the graphical data is modified upon detecting a change in the network conditions. In yet another embodiment, the server's processing rate is modified upon detecting a performance mismatch between the client and the server. A time differential relating to the transmission and receipt of graphical data between the server and the client is used to estimate the network conditions. Similarly, another time differential relating to the processing of graphical data by both the client and server is used to ascertain performance mismatches between the client and server.

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